

BYRON DORGAN
NORTH DAKOTA

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3405

February 4, 1993

PRB
92-235
534

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Office of the Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

MAR - 8 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Chairman:

Enclosed please find several letters I have received from my constituents in North Dakota who are concerned about a proposal by the Federal Communications Commission to revise the regulations governing Private Land Mobile Radio Services (PLMR).

I understand that the regulations governing PLMR services have not been updated since they were initially introduced in the 1930's. Since that time, there have been many technological improvements which have led to a much greater use of the frequencies that are available to PLMR service users which include those who use radio controlled airplanes, cars, and boats, dispatch services, and private mobile phone services, to name but a few. It is my hope that a comprehensive review and modification of FCC regulations governing this area will result in more efficient use of these technologies and more efficient use of the entire spectrum for all users.

As I understand it, part of the FCC proposal entails reducing channel spacing to 6.25 kHz or less in order to create approximately 2200-3100 new channels. My constituents, who are avid users of radio controlled model airplanes, helicopters, cars and boats, are concerned that decreasing the separation requirements between channels will interfere with their ability to practice a hobby that many have invested a great deal of time and money in.

I urge you to take their concerns into consideration as you continue with the rulemaking process. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Byron L. Dorgan
U.S. Senator

Thank!

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FEB 12 2 27 PM '93
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
PRIVATE LAND MOBILE RADIO SERVICES
FCC

BLD:mmh
Enclosures

(10) Letters attached

FLATLANDERS R/C MODELERS
Grand Forks AFB, ND

MAR - 8 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

20 Jan 93

The Honorable Byron L. Dorgan
13 Federal Building
Bismarck, ND 58502

Sir

It has recently come to my attention that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is considering an action that will severely limit and potentially eliminate a very important hobby of mine, radio controlled (R/C) model airplanes, helicopters, cars and boats.

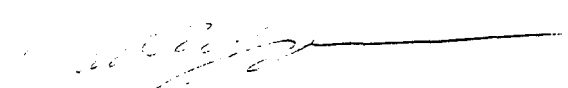
The Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in PR Docket 92-235 replaces Part 90 of the FCC rules with a new part 88. Part 90 allows for safe use of R/C aircraft and surface models by keeping 10 KHz spacing between fixed commercial users and frequencies used by R/C enthusiasts. The new Part 88 will allow mobile users on frequencies within 2.5 KHz of frequencies available to us, eliminating safe use of at least 31 of the 50 channels on the 72 MHz band and 10 of the 30 frequencies on the 75 MHz band now used by hobbyists. In fact, more channels will likely be affected.

This action will have a severe, detrimental impact upon me and the entire R/C hobby industry. If put into effect, my airplane or helicopter could easily be shot out of the sky by a mobile user I'd have no way of knowing about. This creates a severe health hazard.

I have been involved in this hobby for 16 years. I own 3 radios and 4 model airplanes, helicopters, cars and boats. In addition, I have numerous engines, motors, chargers, field accessories and other products necessary to support my hobby. When you consider there are hundreds of thousands of other R/C hobbyists in the U.S. just like me, these proposed rule changes will affect a lot of people economically and in terms of enjoyment.

I urge you to consider this and investigate or take what ever action you can. Keep 10 KHz spacing between all frequencies on the 75 MHz and 72 MHz bands available for safe use by R/C enthusiasts. Please don't let the FCC eliminate this hobby that has grown tremendously over the past 30 years and has so much investment of money and enjoyment of people nationwide.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, 
Joel Garza
1385-B Beech Ave.
Grand Forks AFB, ND
58204

JAN 25 1993

FLATLANDERS R/C MODELERS
Grand Forks AFB, ND

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The Honorable Byron L. Dorgan
358 Federal Building
Bismarck, ND 58502

MAR - 8 1993 Jan 93

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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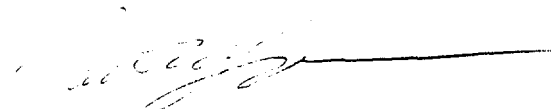
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I urge you to consider this and investigate or take what ever action you can. Keep 10 KHz spacing between all frequencies on the 75 MHz and 72 MHz bands available for safe use by R/C enthusiasts. Please don't let the FCC eliminate this hobby that has grown tremendously over the past 30 years and has so much investment of money and enjoyment of people nationwide.

Thank you for your consideration.


Sincerely, Joel Garza
1385-B Beech Ave.
Grand Forks AFB, ND
58204

JAN 25 1993

FLATLANDERS R/C MODELERS
Grand Forks AFB, ND

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558 Federal Building
Bismarck, ND 58502

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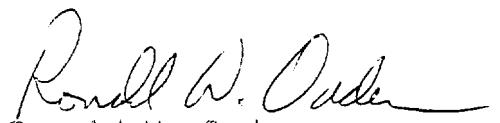
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I have been involved in this hobby for 4 years. I own 3 radios and 6 model airplanes, helicopters, cars and boats. In addition, I have numerous engines, motors, chargers, field accessories and other products necessary to support my hobby. When you consider there are hundreds of thousands of other R/C hobbyists in the U.S. just like me, these proposed rule changes will affect a lot of people economically and in terms of enjoyment.

I urge you to consider this and investigate or take what ever action you can. Keep 10 KHz spacing between all frequencies on the 75 MHz and 72 MHz bands available for safe use by R/C enthusiasts. Please don't let the FCC eliminate this hobby that has grown tremendously over the past 30 years and has so much investment of money and enjoyment of people nationwide.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, 
Ronald W. Oudean
1420-A Beech Dr.
Grand Forks AFB, ND
58204

JAN 25 1993

FLATLANDERS R/C MODELERS
Grand Forks AFB, ND

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The Honorable Byron L. Dorgan
158 Federal Building
Bismarck, ND 58502

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20 Jan 93

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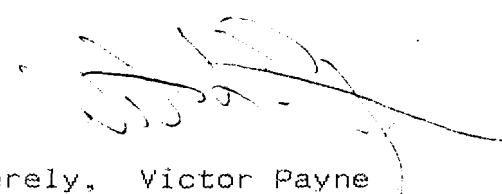
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I have been involved in this hobby for 6 years. I own 5 radios and 15 model airplanes, helicopters, cars and boats. In addition, I have numerous engines, motors, chargers, field accessories and other products necessary to support my hobby. When you consider there are hundreds of thousands of other R/C hobbyists in the U.S. just like me, these proposed rule changes will affect a lot of people economically and in terms of enjoyment.

I urge you to consider this and investigate or take what ever action you can. Keep 10 KHz spacing between all frequencies on the 75 MHz and 72 MHz bands available for safe use by R/C enthusiasts. Please don't let the FCC eliminate this hobby that has grown tremendously over the past 30 years and has so much investment of money and enjoyment of people nationwide.

Thank you for your consideration.


Sincerely, Victor Payne
N-90 Ack's Trailer Ct.
Emerado, ND 58228

JAN 25 REC'D

FLATLANDERS R/C MODELERS
Grand Forks AFB, ND

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MAR - 8 1993

20 Jan 93

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable Byron L. Dorgan
753 Federal Building
Bismarck, ND 58502

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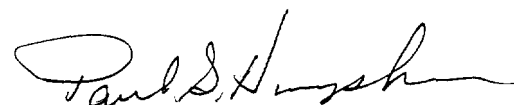
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I have been involved in this hobby for 3 years. I own 3 radios and 5 model airplanes, helicopters, cars and boats. In addition, I have numerous engines, motors, chargers, field accessories and other products necessary to support my hobby. When you consider there are hundreds of thousands of other R/C hobbyists in the U.S. just like me, these proposed rule changes will affect a lot of people economically and in terms of enjoyment.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Paul Humphress
2229 Springbrook Ct.
Grand Forks, ND, 58201

JAN 25 REC'D

FLATLANDERS R/C MODELERS
Grand Forks AFB, ND

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MAR - 8 1993

20 Jan 93

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable Byron L. Dorgan
308 Federal Building
Bismarck, ND 58502

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I have been involved in this hobby for 20 years. I own 2 radios and 7 model airplanes, helicopters, cars and boats. In addition, I have numerous engines, motors, chargers, field accessories and other products necessary to support my hobby. When you consider there are hundreds of thousands of other R/C hobbyists in the U.S. just like me, these proposed rule changes will affect a lot of people economically and in terms of enjoyment.

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Thank you for your consideration.


Sincerely, Darcy Niebeling
S-51 Ack's Trailer Ct.
Emerado, ND 58228

JAN 25 REC'D

FLATLANDERS R/C MODELERS
Grand Forks AFB, ND

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MAR - 8 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable Byron L. Dorgan
538 Federal Building
Bismarck, ND 58502

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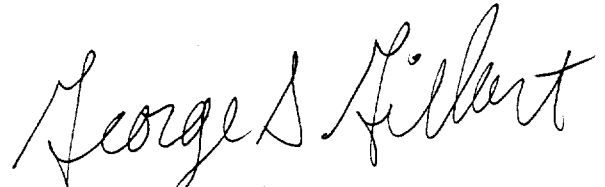
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I have been involved in this hobby for 20 years. I own 1 radios and 10 model airplanes, helicopters, cars and boats. In addition, I have numerous engines, motors, chargers, field accessories and other products necessary to support my hobby. When you consider there are hundreds of thousands of other R/C hobbyists in the U.S. just like me, these proposed rule changes will affect a lot of people economically and in terms of enjoyment.

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Thank you for your consideration.



Sincerely, George Gilbert
1704-D "J" St.
Grand Forks AFB, ND
58204

JAN 26 REC'D

FLATLANDERS R/C MODELERS
Grand Forks AFB, ND

FEB 21 1993

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MAR - 8 1993
20 Jan 93

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable Byron L. Dorgan
338 Federal Building
Bismarck, ND 58502

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Keith E. Brockway
Keith Brockway
6102-E Sunflake Cir.
Grand Forks AFB, ND
58204

END 26 REC'D

ROGER LEE

1616-1ST AVENUE SOUTH EAST
MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA 58701

RECEIVED

MAR - 8, 1993

JANUARY 25, 1993

JAN 25 1993
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SENATOR BYRON DORGAN
825 HART OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

DEAR SENATOR DORGAN:

I AM AN ADULT WHO IS AN AVID RADIO CONTROL CAR RACER. I HAVE FOUND RADIO CONTROLLED RACE CARS TO BE A ENJOYABLE PASTIME ACTIVITY. WE HAVE ALSO FOUND THE RADIO CONTROLLED RACE CARS TO AN EXCELLANT OUTLET FOR THE ENERGIES OF THE YOUTH IN OUR AREA. IT IS VERY GRATIFYING TO SEE THESE YOUNG PEOPLE EXPENDING THEIR ENERGIES TO MASTER THESE MINIATURE RACE CARS. THE MECHANICAL AND ELECTRONIC KNOWLEDGE GAINED WILL NO DOUBT BENEFIT THEM IN THE FUTURE. OUR LOCAL RADIO CONTROL RACE CLUB ALSO PROVIDES ACTIVITIES AND ENJOYMENT FOR SEVERAL PHYSICALLY LIMITED INDIVIDUALS.

I AM VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROPOSED RULE THAT IS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION. THE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING IN PR DOCKET 92-235 REPLACES PART 90 OF THE RULES WITH A NEW PART 88. PART 90 ALLOWS FOR SAFE USE OF R/C CARS AND AIRCRAFT BY KEEPING 10 KHZ SPACING BETWEEN FIXED COMMERCIAL USERS AND FREQUENCIES USED BY R/C ENTHUSIASTS. THE NEW PART 88 WILL ALLOW MOBILE USERS ON FREQUENCIES WITHIN 2.5 KHZ OF FREQUENCIES USED BY R/C ENTHUSIASTS. THIS WILL ELIMINATE SAFE USE OF 10 OF 30 FREQUENCIES USED FOR R/C CARS AND 31 OF THE 50 CHANNELS USED FOR R/C AIRCRAFT AND IT IS VERY LIKELY MORE CHANNELS WILL BE AFFECTED.

THERE ARE ENOUGH PROBLEMS OPERATING RADIOS WITHOUT INTERFERENCE WITH ONLY 10 KHZ SPACING LET ALONE 2.5 KHZ. INTERFERENCE OF ANY KIND CAN CAUSE A RADIO CONTROLLED VEHICLE TO BE UNCONTROLABLE. SOME OF OUR RACE CARS WEIGH 5 LBS. & ATTAIN SPEEDS NEAR 70 M.P.H.. R/C AIRCRAFT CAN WEIGH 20 LBS. AND ATTAIN SPEEDS OVER 100 M.P.H.. RADIO CONTROLLED VEHICLES OF THESE WEIGHTS AND CAPABLE OF THESE SPEEDS NEED SAFE RADIO FREQUENCIES TO OPERATE ON.

LIKE MANY R/C ENTHUSIASTS I HAVE A SIZEABLE INVESTMENT NOT ONLY IN TIME BUT SHOP EQUIPMENT, CARS, RADIOS & RACE TRACK SUPPORT EQUIPMENT. I PRESENTLY HAVE FIVE RADIOS, SIX RADIO CONTROLLED RACE CARS ALONG WITH THE NECESSARY SUPPORT EQUIPMENT. IF I CANNOT OPERATE MY RADIO CONTROLLED RACE CARS IN A SAFE MANNER I WILL PACK MY EQUIPMENT UP RATHER THAN CHANCE INJURY TO ANYONE BECAUSE OF RADIO FREQUENCY PROBLEMS. I CERTAINLY HOPE THIS DOES NOT HAPPEN.

WE NEED TO PROTECT THE SAFETY OF THE R/C ENTHUSIAST AND THE R/C SPECATOR.

PLEASE ASSURE THE SAFE ENJOYMENT OF OUR PASTIME BY NOT ALLOWING THE FCC TO CARRY OUT THE PROPOSED PR DOCKET 92-235 REGARDING 2.5 KHZ SPACING FOR RADIO FREQUENCIES.

THE FCC DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 26, 1993.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP.

Roger Lee

FEB 11 1993



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MAR - 8 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Loren Moen

The Honorable Senator Byron Dorgan
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Dorgan:

I have been interested in aviation for as long as I can remember. I am very active in a local club whose members enjoy constructing and flying radio controlled airplanes.

My concern is the proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the FCC. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHZ band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. Our frequencies in this band are far enough apart so we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference. Of our present 50 frequencies we will have only 19 left if these new rules are adopted.

We as modelers are a very safety conscious group. As you may know, our airplanes can weigh as much as 100 lbs. and speeds may exceed 150 mph! I would hate to see the outcome, if by frequency interference, one of these airplanes went out of control and hit someone or someones property.

Please help us enjoy a safe hobby and not allow the FCC to carry out its proposals for these bands.

sincerely,
Loren Moen
607 E. Vera
Bottineau, ND